**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Christ the King/Reign of Christ**

**November 26, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>
2) our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

3) our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/>

If the video feed is interrupted during the service, we will continue to record and then post the full video on Facebook and our web site as soon as possible.

 Gathering Music

Our Photo Story today is “Fall 2023 by Carol McHaley.”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 Lighting the Candles (2 Timothy 1:7)

**“For God gave us a spirit not of fear
 but of power and love and self-control.”**

  Prelude: *Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring*

[Please remain seated while singing the opening song.]

 Hymn: *You Are My King (Amazing Love)* p. 42, gold supplement

 Call to Worship

 Leader: In the name of the One with plans for us all,

 **People: In the name of the One who listens when we pray,**

 Leader: In the name of the One who loves us,

 **People: The one who cherishes us and reigns forever more,**

 **All:** **Let us worship the Lord our God.**

 Hymn 268: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**God, we thank you that, wherever we are, you have work for us to do.**

**We thank you that, whoever we are, there is a place for us in your kingdom.**

**Help us to always include others, to rejoice when they rejoice, to mourn when they mourn. When we forget to reach and include others, we thank you for forgiving us, turning us around, and putting our feet on a straight path. Together, we celebrate the family you have created through Jesus Christ, who is our Lord, Savior, and King of Kings. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ (Psalm 103:8-12)

 Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

 **People: The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love.**

 **All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

 Response 581: *Glory Be to the Father*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children

 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

 *God Welcomes All*  Hymnal 399

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;**

**God’s love is strong and it never ends.**

Text: John L. Bell, 2008

Music: South African song, transc, John L. Bell, 2008

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 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  2 Kings 23:1-3 Pew Bible, p. 356, O.T.)

 Matthew 25:31-40 Pew Bible, p. 29 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Sheep and Goats”

 Reception of New Members

 Presentation of New Members

 Words of Scripture

 Reaffirmation of Faith

 Renunciation

 Affirmation of Faith: *The Apostles’ Creed*

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

 **All**: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of
 heaven and earth.**

 Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

 **All**: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

 **All**: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 Question of Membership

 Leader: Do you promise to be a faithful member of this
 congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and
 so fulfill your calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ
 the Lord?

 **New Members**: **I do.**

 Congregational Prayer (unison)

**O God our Father: we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our family brothers and sisters in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

 Welcome New Members

 Leader: Welcome to this ministry of Jesus Christ.

 Congregational Response (unison)

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us
in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

 Hymn 260: *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

 Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

 Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

 **People**: **hear our prayers.**

**The Lord’s Prayer:** (unison)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

[The offering plate is at the back of the sanctuary. Please leave your gift or pledge
in the plate on your way into or out of worship.]

 Offertory: *Thankful*

 \**Doxology* Hymnal #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

 Hymn 263: *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name*

 Charge and Benediction

 Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

 **All: For we are blessed to be a blessing!
 Alleluia, amen!**

 Postlude: *Now Thank We All Our God*

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden
Liturgist: Gretchen Fleming
Greeter/Fellowship: Barb Zink and Lynn Ferino
Music: Derek A. Buckley
Worship Assistant: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by the Bohi family in memory of Dan’s birthday.

If you are present for worship, following the service you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** in the narthex. Coffee and canned beverages will be served; masks and social distancing are at your discretion.

If you are online, we’re glad to have you! Using the comments section on Facebook, you can say hello, ask for words of peace, or request prayers.
 **Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study** will not meet today. Join us again next Sunday at 11:15 a.m. in the parlor/Library or online.

You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden at 4:20 p.m. most weeks Tuesday through Friday.

Even though we have returned to in-person worship, we will also continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m. (slideshow beginning at 9:15) on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

If you are watching from home on Facebook, please check in and say hello so we can see that you have joined us. This is one way to make worship less “remote” and strengthen community at Southminster.

*The live video will appear about 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.*

*If for any reason the feed falters, rest assured that a recording will be posted to Facebook and You Tube as soon as possible.*

You can also find links to recordings of the weekday sessions, special services, and Sunday worship posted on our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/> or by going to our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/videos>

**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us feel connected!**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. Coming up next month we’ll be looking for holiday-themed photos, such as of Advent wreaths, Christmas trees, and crèches. Keep this in mind as you decorate your home – take photos and watch for the dates we would like them submitted.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**:  Our adult class will not meet today. We will continue our study of Matthew’s gospel next Sunday (December 3) but will skip December 10 due to the Christmas Program rehearsal that day.

**SPC Men**: Put Wednesday, January 17, on your calendar for a **dessert fellowship** at 7:30 p.m. We will eat, chat, and hear a couple of us tell their stories. Want to share your story—a brief account of your life and especially how God has been a part of your life? Please contact Blair N.

**Youth**:  Hope you had a happy Turkey Day! The **Christmas Program** is coming up, and we need some readers. The program will be December 17, and the rehearsal/run through after church on December 10. Contact Blair N if you would like to read.
 **From the Mission Ministry: Share the Spirit collection ends today!**Each year for many years Southminster has helped People’s Resource Center (PRC) provide Christmas gifts for those they serve—people in DuPage County who need assistance with their living expenses. You can help make Christmas brighter for those families by donating items that PRC is requesting this year:

* NEW books (ages birth to 17)
* NEW family games
* NEW small stuffed animals (12” or smaller)
* NEW WITH TAGS blankets (no hand-made blankets)
* Retail gift cards for $25 to Wal-Mart, Jewel, Mariano's, Amazon, or Target so that families can choose personalized items for their holiday season

All gifts are due at church **by today**, to have them delivered to PRC in time for the holiday distribution. But you can still order gift cards today through **Jubilee Bucks** (while also earning “free money” for Southminster!) A special order form for Jubilee Bucks/Share the Spirit is available from Bobbi Frey for those who wish to donate gift cards. Cards ordered today will still meet the donation deadline. Scroll down to the note about Jubilee Bucks.

**From the Deacons: Underwear collection for PADS ends today!**

November is “**Sunday Undies**” month! The Deacons are collecting new underwear, to be donated to the PADS IHC (Interim Housing Center). They need the following:

* Men’s Boxers - sizes L to XXXX
* Women’s Briefs - sizes 6, 7, 8
* Children’s - all sizes

Please place your donations in the laundry basket, located in the Narthex. The collection will run **through today – Sunday, November 26**. Thank you for supporting this Deacon-sponsored project!

 **From the Worship Ministry: Poinsettias**Worship Ministry will again be ordering poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. We are hoping for 4 large 3-branch blooms – 2 **red** and 2 **white** – at $45 each. We are also hoping for 12 **red** 2-branch blooms (smaller plants than last year) at $30 each. Kindly sign up on the flower bulletin board at church or contact Sarah Allen by phone or text (630-988-8231) by December 8. Poinsettias can be taken home after the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

**Interested in roleplaying games? Join our Pathfinder group!**

Southminster is starting a Pathfinder group, and we’d love it if you'd join us. For those who are unfamiliar, Pathfinder is a game like Dungeons and Dragons in which players each create their own character and join together to tell a story. Our organizational session is today, November 26, after worship in the choir room. No experience needed. Laptops are highly recommended.

If you can’t be at the meeting and are interested in joining or simply curious, please email Anny Davidson at adavidson171@gmail.com for more information. Looking forward to playing with you!

**A community invitation: Christmas music!**
The Village Vocal Chords, a Glen-Ellyn based women’s barbershop chorus, will present a festive Christmas concert on Monday, December 4, 7:30 p.m. at 1st United Methodist Church, 424 Forest Ave., Glen Ellyn. “Sounds of the Season” will feature the award-winning chorus, a proud member of Harmony, Inc., an international association of women singers. The public is invited! Tickets are $10.00 each, available at the door. (If you want advance tickets – but there’s no discount for early purchase – talk to Barb in the SPC office.)

**Jubilee Bucks: Order today!**
**Today is** **the last time to order gift cards for Share the Spirit.** STS will take cards from Amazon, Target, Walmart, Jewel, and Mariano’s in the amount of $25. Order forms are available in church or attached to email that went out on Friday with the Sunday bulletin. You can give your order to Bobbi in church Sunday or email her (bobbifrey@aol.com) by 9:00 Sunday night. If you are also ordering gift cards for yourself, you’ll need to let Bobbi know which are for you and which are for STS!

For your personal use and for holiday giving, your last order date will be December 10.
 **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:
Southminster has been faithfully providing donations of food items and personal care products for PRC for many years. If you would like suggestions for what to give, PRC has provided a list of the items that are most needed. Copies are printed on bright green paper and are in the stand on the nametag shelf (main hallway – across from the offices). You can view the list online at the PRC website: <https://www.peoplesrc.org/give-food-or-goods/>.
Many thanks to all who continue to support PRC’s mission to meet our communities’ needs, neighbor to neighbor.
**Care Notes:** “In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” -Philippians 4:6
Even though we aren’t all together for worship, we are still collecting prayer requests! Please email or leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149 if you won’t be present to fill out a prayer request slip.

**Friends,
You are all invited to offer prayer for people whether they are members or not. It would be a joy and very helpful to know how people are doing. If you have submitted a person to be prayed for, can you send an update to the office, please, once in a while? Thank you! Pastor Wendy**

**Joys and Concerns**  **The flowers today** are from the Bohi family in memory of Dan’s birthday. **We give thanks to God for joys:**
 - Sharing Thanksgiving with family and friends
 - The birth of Blaire Elizabeth Benson, a new granddaughter for the Petersens
 - New members joining our Southminster family
 - Tricia Smith is grateful for the care and concern of Southminster during the past several years.
  - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, as she continues to heal
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
 - We pray for former President Jimmy Carter and family on the death of his wife, Rosalynn, who died last Sunday at age 96. Rosalynn Carter was the First Lady from 1977 to 1981; she was a strong advocate for humanitarian causes and mental health care.
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. Last week (November 12-18) there were 7 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), leaving 10 dead and 23 injured. Click on [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see the current national statistics for mass shootings.
  - We pray for safety in our schools and any place where people gather.
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.
 - All throughout the world who are recovering from earthquakes, floods, and other natural disasters
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world, especially Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Gaza, and the Sudan
**Blessed are those who mourn:** - Prayers for Drew Price, a Chicago firefighter who died from injuries suffered while fighting a fire last week
 - Barb’s sister-in-law, Jean, and her family on the death of her mother
 - Heidi Shierry requests prayers for Carlie Hasselbring and her family for the loss of her baby boy, Carter, who died in her womb on November 12.
 - We continue to pray for the Baldwin family and for the other passenger who was in the car in the death of John Clyde Baldwin, Blair’s uncle.
 - The family of Nancy Eberhardt, a former Southminster member, who died November 7. Her Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held at Southminster on Saturday, December 16.
 - We mourn all the innocents caught up in violence.
  - We continue to pray for the family of Grace Van Beveren
  - We pray for Joan and for the Koska sons and their families, mourning the loss of Ed.
  - The family and many friends of Dan Bohi, and especially Deb, Jessica and Megan and their spouses, and the four grandchildren.
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems:
*Please help us pray for your family and friends by updating your loved ones’ information with the church office. We support them and you in their journey.***
 - Frank Lucchesi, friend of the Birchalls, facing cancer surgery
 - We continue to pray for: Dean, Bobby B., Rod B., Annette C., Tom G., Dean L., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Helen S., Marta S., Gerry S., Beverly W., and others we name in our hearts. **We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges:**
 - Tom Corcoran, a friend of the Bohis, hospitalized with Covid
 - Prayers for all who have Covid
 - Curt, brother of Elise Henkels, recovering from diabetic concerns, now receiving inpatient physical therapy
  - Pain relief for Paul Anderson
  - Jim Smith, recovering at Brookdale
  - We pray for those who are in hospice care: Gail Johnston at Du Page Convalescent Center (If you send a card to Gail, please mail it to Andrea Schmidt, whose address is in the directory.); former President Jimmy Carter.
 - We continue to pray for Viola’s family, Miles, Mary, Maykel, Edem, and others we name in our hearts.
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force and all of us as we seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century.**They will be meeting on Tuesday, November 28. May we all be attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading.

 **Caring for you!**Our **Congregational Care Committee** is ready to assist in time of need. If you need assistance from the Congregational Care Ministry or Helping Hands) in November or December, call Angela Smith (630-235-1376). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at wendy@southminsterpc.org. (Please note that she can only read email when she is in the office.) You may also call your deacon if you need help from the church.

**Office Schedule: The church office is closed on Mondays and Wednesdays.**Barb’s regular schedule is to be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from approximately 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. while her son attends his day program on those days. Mondays and Wednesdays she works from home.

Grace and peace to you! Remember that we love God, neighbor, and one another. Our address is 680 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 if you would like to set up an online account with your bank or mail in your pledge. Online giving through Vanco is also now an option –for details contact Ron Birchall.

**Dates to remember this week:**    **Sunday, November 26**
**Last day of collections for Share the Spirit gifts and Undies for PADS**
**Order Jubilee Bucks gift cards** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com before 9:00 p.m. **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office
 **Organizational meeting for Pathfinders** (a role-playing game) in the choir room
 following worship and fellowship
 **Special meeting of Session** at 11:00 a.m. to consider baptism requests
 **No Adult Ed. or youth group**
**Monday, November 27 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, November 28**
 **Jeremiah Task Force** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, November 29
 eNotes go out but it is also the deadline for the December *Dialog*!
 Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. in the Parlor/Library
**Thursday, November 30
 Choir rehearsal** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
**Friday, December 1**
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **December 3 – *1st Sunday of Advent***
 **Worship with communion** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either online via Google Meet or by joining Blair
 in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library
 **Youth?** Check with Blair N.

**Bearing Fruit – November 26, 2023**

**Welcoming New Members**

Today we are welcoming new members into our faith community. They met with members of session on Sunday, November 12, at a perspective member brunch. They are Derek and Jonathan Buckley, Delores Collins, Kevin and Linsey Hume, Dionna Jenkins-Reaves, Emily Nordstrom, and Viola Patterson. Not everyone could be here today! Welcome those who are with us this morning and look forward to meeting our other new members. Today marks the end of the Christian calendar for worship, which is Christ the King Sunday. On Christ the King Sunday we give thanks and praise for the reign of Christ in our lives, who is LORD of all creation, and look with hope to his coming again in glory. This festival was established in 1925 by decree of Pope Pius XI. Originally it took place on the last Sunday in October, just prior to All Saints’ Day. Now it is celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year, an accumulation of God’s reign in our lives, a week before the season of Advent begins

Christ is named King in various portions of scripture, King Eternal (First Timothy 1:17), King of Israel (John 1:49), King of Kings (First Timothy 6:15 and Revelation 19:16) King of the Ages (Revelation 15:3) and Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (Revelation 1:5).

What do the names of Jesus mean to you? How will you bear his love in the world? How will you welcome our new members as we begin to share and bear the fruit of God’s love together?